

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 040373/0255

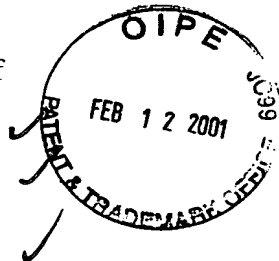
In re patent application of

Kazuo ISHII

Serial No. 09/320,457

Filed: May 27, 1999

For: OPTICAL SYMBOL READING DEVICE



Group Art Unit: 2876

Examiner: J. Fureman

TC 2800 MAIL ROOM

FEB 16 2001

#6/a  
Amend  
J. McMillan  
RECEIVED  
2/19/01

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed October 12, 2000, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) An optical symbol reading device comprising:  
an image data input section which includes a front surface symbol reading device and back surface symbol reading device, that is provided with an image data input unit for receiving a bar code label, characters, symbols, or image data on an article that is moved by a conveyor, and an image data input focus point modifier;  
an article detector for detecting that said article has entered a read zone;  
an interpreter for converting electric signals from said image data input section to numbers or characters; an interpretation result output section for outputting the interpretation results of said interpreter to an external device;